

Remarks/Arguments

35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-8, 11-18, and 21-28, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Nishida (U.S. Patent No. 2002/0036709). Claims 1-3, 8, 11-13, 18, and 21-23, and 28, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Shibata (EP 1162836).

The Office Action states that “Claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 29 and 30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.” (Office Action, page 6, “Allowable Subject Matter”)

The claims have been amended to add the limitations of claims 9 and 10 to claim 1, the limitations of claims 19 and 20 to claim 11, and the limitations of claims 29 and 30 to claim 21. As such, it is respectfully submitted that the independent claims are now allowable, as indicated in the Office Action.

In view of the above remarks and amendments to the claims, it is respectfully asserted that there is no 35 USC 112 enabling disclosure provided by Nishida or Shibata that makes the present invention as claimed in currently amended claim 1, 11, and 21 unpatentable. Since dependent claims 2-8, 12-18, and 22-28 are dependent from allowable independent claims 1, 11, and 20 respectively, it is submitted that they too are allowable for at least the same reasons that their respective independent claims are allowable. Thus, it is further respectfully submitted that this rejection has been satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Having fully addressed the Examiner’s rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant’s representative at (609) 734-6804, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

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